

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for controlling fire blight, comprising providing an acidic environment comprising (1) fungal structures selected from the group consisting of yeast cells, fungal spores and mixtures thereof, and (2) at least one of disodium hydrogen phosphate and sodium hydrogen carbonate ~~is~~ in an amount sufficient to maintain a pH of the acidic environment between 3 to 6; and applying the acidic environment to a plant.

2. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the acidic environment is kept within a pH range of 3.6 to 4.0.

3. (canceled).

4. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, including the step of adding blastospores of the species *Aureobasidium pullulans*.

5. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, including adding yeast cells of the species *Metschnikowia pulcherrima*.

6. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, including adding citric acid as acidifier.

7. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, including adding whey powder.

8. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, including adding (1) blastospores or yeast cells, (2) citric acid and (3) whey powder.

9. (canceled).

10. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, including adding spores, conidia and budding yeast cells of filamentous fungi and yeast as fungal structures which are capable of multiplication.

11-13. (canceled).

14. (canceled).

15. (previously presented) A plant protection agent for controlling fire blight, wherein 1 kg of product comprises:

2×10^{11} to 1×10^{13} blastospores of the species
Aureobasidium pullulans;
 2×10^{11} to 1×10^{13} yeast cells of the species Metschnikowia
pulcherrima;
 100 g to 400 g citric acid;
 50 g to 250 g disodium hydrogen phosphate; and
 100 g to 500 g whey powder.

16-22. (canceled).